CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for copying data from an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) connection table, comprising:

(a) monitoring an ATM connection table on an ATM network;

(b) determining whether entries of the ATM connection table are active;

(c) periodically transferring data from active entries of the ATM connection table to memory;

(d) utilizing identifiers associated with the data for identification purposes; and

(e) utilizing the transferred data in the memory with an application program.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data is transferred from the active entries of a plurality of ATM connection tables.

3. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the plurality of ATM connection tables include one ATM connection table for each of a plurality of ATM links.

4. The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the memory includes 4Kbtyes of memory.

5. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the plurality of ATM connection tables include at least one common ATM connection table.

6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the entries of the ATM connection table are active if the entries have been just created since a previous transfer of data.

7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the entries of the ATM connection table are active if the entries have been altered since a previous transfer of data.

8. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data from the active entries of the ATM connection table includes statistical information.

9. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data from the active entries of the ATM connection table includes state information.

10. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein a period with which the data is periodically transferred from the active entries of the ATM connection table to the memory is configurable.

11. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the period is configurable within a predetermined range.

12. The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the predetermined range is between 1 transfer/second to 4 transfers/second.

13. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising initializing the periodic transfer of the data utilizing an application program interface between the application program and the memory.

14. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising ceasing the periodic transfer of the data utilizing an application program interface between the application program and the memory.

15. The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the application program interface identifies a location in the memory to which the data is to be transferred.

16. The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the application program interface identifies a period at which the data is to be transferred to the memory.

17. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the data from each entry of the ATM connection table is transferred independently.

18. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the memory is interrupted in order for the application program to use the transferred data...

19. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein multiple instances of the data are stored in the memory.

20. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the memory stores the data in a circular manner.

21. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising identifying a last entry of the ATM connection table.

22. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the identifiers are ATM connection identifiers.

23. The method as recited in claim 22, and further comprising translating the identifiers.

24. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising determining an age of the data.

25. The method as recited in claim 24, wherein the data is deleted upon the age reaching a predetermined amount.

26. A computer program product for copying data from an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) connection table, comprising:

(a) computer code for monitoring an ATM connection table on an ATM network;

(b) computer code for determining whether entries of the ATM connection table are active;

(c) computer code for periodically transferring data from active entries of the ATM connection table to memory;

(d) computer code for utilizing identifiers associated with the data for identification purposes; and

(e) computer code for utilizing the transferred data in the memory with an application program.

27. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the data is transferred from the active entries of a plurality of ATM connection tables.

28. The computer program product as recited in claim 27, wherein the plurality of ATM connection tables include one ATM connection table for each of a plurality of ATM links.

29. The computer program product as recited in claim 28, wherein the memory includes at least 4Kbtyes of memory.

30. The computer program product as recited in claim 27, wherein the plurality of ATM connection tables include at least one common ATM connection table.

31. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the entries of the ATM connection table are active if the entries have been just created since a previous transfer of data.

32. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the entries of the ATM connection table are active if the entries have been altered since a previous transfer of data.

33. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the data from the active entries of the ATM connection table includes statistical information.

34. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the data from the active entries of the ATM connection table includes state information.

35. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein a period with which the data is periodically transferred from the active entries of the ATM connection table to the memory is configurable.

36. The computer program product as recited in claim 35, wherein the period is configurable within a predetermined range.

37. The computer program product as recited in claim 36, wherein the predetermined range is between 1 transfer/second to 4 transfers/second.

38. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, and further comprising initializing the periodic transfer of the data utilizing an application program interface between the application program and the memory.

39. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, and further comprising ceasing the periodic transfer of the data utilizing an application program interface between the application program and the memory.

40. The computer program product as recited in claim 39, wherein the application program interface identifies a location in the memory to which the data is to be transferred.

41. The computer program product as recited in claim 40, wherein the application program interface identifies a period at which the data is to be transferred to the memory.

42. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the data from each entry of the ATM connection table is transferred independently.

43. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the memory is interrupted in order for the application program to use the transferred data...

44. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein multiple instances of the data are stored in the memory.

45. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the memory stores the data in a circular manner.

46. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, and further comprising identifying a last entry of the ATM connection table.

47. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, wherein the identifiers are ATM connection identifiers.

48. The computer program product as recited in claim 47, and further comprising translating the identifiers.

49. The computer program product as recited in claim 26, and further comprising determining an age of the data.

50. The computer program product as recited in claim 49, wherein the data is deleted upon the age reaching a predetermined amount.

51. A system for copying data from an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) connection table, comprising:

(a) logic for monitoring an ATM connection table on an ATM network;

(b) logic for determining whether entries of the ATM connection table are active;

(c) logic for periodically transferring data from active entries of the ATM connection table to memory; and

(d) logic for utilizing identifiers associated with the data for identification purposes;

(e) wherein the transferred data in the memory is capable of being used with an application program.

52. A method for copying data from a connection table, comprising:

(a) receiving a signal indicating that data is ready to be received by an application program;

(b) identifying entries of a connection table in response to the signal;

(c) determining whether the entries of the connection table are active;

(d) transferring data from active entries of the connection table to memory; and

(e) allowing the transferred data in the memory to be used by the application program.

53. A computer program product for copying data from a connection table, comprising:

(a) computer code for receiving a signal indicating that data is ready to be received by an application program;

(b) computer code for identifying entries of a connection table in response to the signal;

(c) computer code for determining whether the entries of the connection table are active;

(d) computer code for transferring data from active entries of the connection table to memory; and

(e) computer code for allowing the transferred data in the memory to be used by the application program.